

# Certification Policy 02-E(u) – NR credentialed applicants applying for Texas certification (previously NR Reciprocity)

Original policy written August 2002

Policy updated February 4, 2003

Policy updated October 31, 2003 (revisions in green, bold & underlined)

## Background:

Since TDH will begin utilizing the National Registry (NR) exam, it will be illogical to require NR applicants to gain a temporary Texas certificate by the reciprocity route specified by rule. This policy will outline the process NR credentialed applicants will complete in order to gain Texas certification. This policy does not address reciprocity applicants with out-of-state credentials, see Policy 02-B.

**Statute Reference:** HSC §773.050 & §773.059

**Rule Reference:** §157.40 Paramedic Licensure.

§157.33 (k) Reciprocity. A person currently certified by the National Registry or in another state may be certified by submitting an application and a nonrefundable fee of \$100.

(1) After evaluation of the application and verification of the certification by the department, the candidate will be certified for one year.

(2) Prior to the expiration of the one-year certification, the certificant shall: (A) submit a completed personnel certification application and a nonrefundable fee as in subsection (a)(4) of this section; (B) pass the department's written examination or the National Registry examination within one year after the initial reciprocity certification has been granted.

(3) After verification by the department of the information submitted, a candidate who meets the requirements of this section shall be certified for four years beginning on the date of issuance of the certificate.

**POLICY:** Policy effective immediately for ECA, EMT, EMT-I and paramedic certification.

(a) All candidates who have current NR credentials (active or inactive) and meet requirements of §157.33(a) may gain Texas certification by submitting the completed initial application form and appropriate fee. Applicants will be certified for a four year period beginning on issue date. NREMT first responder certification is the corresponding certification to Texas ECA.

(b) All candidates who have current NR credentials (active or inactive) may gain Texas recertification by submitting the completed renewal application form and appropriate fee(s). Applicants must meet rule requirements as directed in §157.34, for the time frame in which recertification is completed, except that:

- a candidate with expired Texas certification (longer than 90 days but less than one year), may renew under Option 3-NR, 157.34(b)(3), but twice the normal application fee is due, as called for in 773.059(c) and 157.34(f)(4), if not volunteer.
- a candidate with inactive Texas certification and current NR certification may regain active Texas certification by complying with 157.34(d)(1)(B) (application and fee described in 157.34(a)(4)).

(c) Texas reciprocity personnel who were granted certification using NR credentials may apply for inactive status during or after the temporary one-year period, as outlined in §157.33(j).

Kathryn C. Perkins, R.N., M.B.A., Chief  
Bureau of Emergency Management  
Original signature dated September 11, 2002

Kathryn C. Perkins, R.N., M.B.A., Chief  
Bureau of Emergency Management  
Policy update signature, February 18, 2003

Kathryn C. Perkins, R.N., M.B.A., Chief  
Bureau of Emergency Management  
Policy update signature, November 15, 2003

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